

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SB 512 - HB 608**

March 2, 2019

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Creates an additional trial court in the 23<sup>rd</sup> judicial district (Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, and Stewart Counties). Requires the Governor to appoint a person to serve as judge or chancellor until September 1, 2020, or until the person's successor is elected and qualified. The effective date of this legislation is September 1, 2019.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditure - \$271,900/FY19-20  
\$296,600/FY20-21 and Subsequent Years**

Assumptions:

- The proposed legislation creates an additional trial court in the 23<sup>rd</sup> judicial district.
- The Governor shall appoint a person to serve in the judgeship until the August 2020 election.
- The recurring salary and benefits for a trial judge are \$215,385 (\$176,377 salary + \$39,008 benefits).
- Additionally, the judge position will require recurring funding for supplies, travel, rent, utilities, legal subscriptions, etc., estimated to be \$27,000 per year, and one-time funding of \$23,000 for furniture, computer, software, other equipment, books, etc.
- The court will not be created until September 1, 2019.
- The expenditures relative to the judge in FY19-20 are estimated to be \$224,979  $\{[(\$215,385 + \$27,000) \times 0.8333 \text{ partial year}] + \$23,000\}$ .
- Each judge has a legal secretary who receives a salary of \$39,800.
- The recurring salary and benefits for a legal secretary are \$52,973 (\$39,800 salary + \$13,173 benefits).
- Additionally, the legal secretary position will require recurring funding for travel estimated to be \$1,200 per year, and one-time funding of \$1,800 for furniture, computer, software, other equipment, etc.
- The expenditures relative to the secretary in FY19-20 are estimated to be \$46,942  $\{[(\$52,973 + \$1,200) \times 0.8333 \text{ partial year}] + \$1,800\}$ .
- The total increase in state expenditures in FY19-20 is estimated to be \$271,921  $(\$224,979 + \$46,942)$ .

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- The total recurring increase in state expenditures beginning in FY20-21 is estimated to be \$296,558 (\$215,385 + \$27,000 + \$52,973 + \$1,200).

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/jmg